

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SHERYL CLARK, Individually, as
Successor-in-Interest to Delaine Stowell,
on Behalf of the Estate of Delaine Stowell,
and on Behalf of the Class,

Plaintiff,

v.

TRANSAMERICA LIFE INSURANCE
COMPANY, an Iowa Corporation,

Defendant.

No. 2:20-cv-0539 JAM DB

ORDER

On April 30, 2020, the parties submitted a proposed stipulated protective order regarding the use of confidential information for the court's consideration. (ECF No. 13.) The parties' proposed stipulated protective order recognizes the applicability of Local Rule 140 regarding redaction but states that

Any document that is not confidential, privileged, or otherwise protectable in its entirety will not be filed under seal if the confidential portions can be redacted. If documents can be redacted, then a redacted version for public viewing, omitting only the confidential, privileged, or otherwise protectable portions of the document, shall be filed. Any application that seeks to file documents under seal in their entirety should include an explanation of why redaction is not feasible.

1 (Id. at 3.) In this regard, the parties’ proposed stipulated protective order appears to contemplate
2 considerable redaction of filed documents.

3 However, the parties are advised that all documents filed with the court are presumptively
4 public. See San Jose Mercury News, Inc. v. U.S. Dist. Court, 187 F.3d 1096, 1103 (9th Cir.
5 1999) (“It is well-established that the fruits of pretrial discovery are, in the absence of a court
6 order to the contrary, presumptively public.”). In civil actions Local Rule 140 provides for the
7 redaction of only minors’ names, financial account numbers, Social Security numbers, dates of
8 birth, and when federal law requires redaction. Local Rule 140(a). “No other redactions are
9 permitted unless the Court has authorized the redaction.” Local Rule 140(b).

10 Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that the parties’ April 30, 2020 request for entry of the
11 proposed stipulated protective order (ECF No. 13) is denied without prejudice to renewal.

12 DATED: May 1, 2020

/s/ DEBORAH BARNES
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE